

Please amend claims 1, 13-18, and 22-24 as follows.

1. (Amended Three Times) A method for accounting for network usage

comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

13. (Amended Three Times) A method for accounting for network usage

comprising:

parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;  
parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;  
publishing said network flow data on an information bus;  
collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a  
target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network  
flow data; and  
correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data <sup>into</sup> a  
subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting  
start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with  
said user.

D2  
14. (Amended Three Times) A method for aggregating/accounting start-stop event  
data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:  
obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;  
obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event  
data from a router within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network  
flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and  
correlating said accounting start-stop event and said network flow data into a call  
detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data  
associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

~~14~~ 15  
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(Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

D2  
~~15~~ 16

16. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

means for parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

means for publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

means for collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

means for aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;

means for parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

means for publishing said network flow data on an information bus;

means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data; and

means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data <sup>into</sup> ~~info~~ a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

17. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event and said network flow data into a call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

16 18

18. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage

comprising:

an accounting adapter in communication with accounting start-stop event data;

a network flow adapter in communication with network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter, wherein said integrating accounting adapter correlates said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

22. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:

an accounting adapter in communication with accounting start-stop event data;

a network flow adapter in communication with network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter which correlates said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by

matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

*17 23*  
*23.*

(Amended Three Times) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for accounting for network usage, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

*24.* (Amended Three Times) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data in a computer network, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;